

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A viscous material dispenser that applies a viscous material from viscous material container such as a capule, cartridge or capsule, comprising:
(a) a dispensing barrel, a dispensing end portion having an opening into which

5 the viscous material container can be inserted and removed

from the dispensing end portion of the dispensing barrel;

(b) a lock for securely locking the viscous material container in the dispensing end portion of the dispensing barrel, the lock being rotatable around the outer circumference of said dispensing barrel, an end portion of the lock corresponding to the end portion of the dispensing barrel, said end portion having an open portion that can rotate about the dispensing end portion of the dispensing barrel such that the viscous material container can be inserted or removed from the dispensing end portion when the open portion of the lock corresponds with the opening in the dispensing end portion, and the viscous material container can be securely retained in the slot when the open portion covers the opening in the dispensing end portion of the dispensing barrel.

2. The viscous material dispenser of claim 1 wherein the viscous material dispenser includes a means for allowing the lock to slide around the outer circumference of the dispensing barrel and for preventing the lock from sliding linearly along the outside of the dispensing barrel.

20 3. The viscous material dispenser of claim 2 wherein the means is a recess in and

around the circumference of a portion of the dispensing barrel that does not have an open portion and a corresponding tab around the inner circumference of a portion of the lock that does not have an open position.

4. The viscous material dispenser of claim 1 further comprising a ram for

5 insertion into the dispensing barrel and exerting force against a viscous material containing capule, cartridge or capsule.

5. The viscous material dispenser of claim 1, further comprising a viscous material containing capule, cartridge or capsule inserted in said slot, wherein the open portion of the lock is in a position away from the open portion of the dispensing barrel.

10 6. The viscous material dispenser of claim 5 wherein the viscous material container contains a viscous dental treatment material.

7. The viscous material dispenser of claim 6 wherein said viscous dental treatment material is a composite material or a dental cement.

8. A method of treating a dental patient in need of such treatment, comprising
15 utilizing the viscous material dispenser of claim 7 to dispense the viscous dental material to a tooth or to the teeth of the dental patient.

9. A viscous material dispenser that applies a viscous material from a container such as a capule, cartridge or capsule, comprising:

(a) a means for holding the viscous material container in a barrel of the viscous

material dispenser;

(b) a means for locking a viscous material container in the means for holding the viscous material container, said means for locking being rotatably displaceable only around the outer circumference of the barrel of the viscous material dispenser wherein
5 the viscous material container can be inserted or removed from the means for holding when the means for locking is in a first position and viscous material container can be securely retained in the means for holding when the means for locking is in a second position.

10. The viscous material dispenser of claim 9 wherein the viscous material
10 dispenser includes a means for allowing the lock to rotate around the outer circumference of the barrel and for preventing the means for locking from sliding linearly along the barrel.

11. The viscous material dispenser of claim 10 wherein the means for allowing is a
recess in and around the outer circumference of a portion of the barrel and a
15 corresponding tab on the means for locking.

12. The viscous material dispenser of claim 10 further comprising a means for exerting force against the viscous material container.

13. The viscous material dispenser of claim 1, further comprising a viscous material container, selected from a capule, a cartridge or a capsule, inserted in said

means for holding and locked into position by said means for locking.

14. The viscous material dispenser of claim 13 wherein the viscous material containing capule, cartridge or capsule contains a viscous dental treatment material.

15. The viscous material dispenser of claim 14 wherein said viscous dental
5 treatment material is a composite material or a dental cement.

16. A method of treating a dental patient in need of such treatment, comprising utilizing the viscous material dispenser of claim 14 to dispense the viscous dental treatment material to a tooth or to the teeth of the dental patient.